

the examination of the materials provided to me, I believe that this problem may be even greater than stated in the GAO report. I am concerned that the Department may be using extremely outdated information and boilerplate analysis that does not reflect current market conditions.

These are tremendously serious problems. Based on my staff's examination of the materials, I believe that using appropriate market calculations and assumptions in some recent coal lease sales could potentially have yielded \$200 million more for the American people and possibly hundreds of millions of dollars more.

Therefore, I am transmitting two letters to the Interior Department, one that I am able to release publicly and one that I cannot, which seek answers to how the Department will respond to the recommendations in the GAO report and other issues involved in Federal coal leasing. I believe that until the questions and issues that I have raised in my letters to the Department are properly addressed to guarantee sufficient taxpayer protections are in place, the Interior Department should temporarily suspend further Federal coal leasing. I will also be introducing legislation in the future to reform the Federal coal program to guarantee a fair return for the American people.

Congress needs to be able to conduct the necessary oversight to ensure that the problems we have seen in the Federal coal program in the past do not continue. Until that happens we cannot assure taxpayers in Massachusetts and every State that they are getting a fair return on this public resource that they own. Until that happens, we lack the assurances that we are not subsidizing coal companies to increase carbon pollution by sending our coal overseas. It is time for the Congress to be able to conduct the oversight of this program that is required.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 5:11 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 1901. An act to authorize the President to extend the term of the nuclear energy agreement with the Republic of Korea until March 19, 2016.

H.R. 2860. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that the Inspector General of the Office of Personnel Management may use amounts in the revolving fund of the Office to fund audits, investigations, and oversight activities, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 1977. A bill to repeal section 403 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013, relating to an annual adjustment of retired pay for members of the Armed Forces under the age of 62, and to provide an offset.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 1982. A bill to improve the provision of medical services and benefits to veterans, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-4477. A communication from the Chief of the Planning and Regulatory Affairs Branch, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Automated Data Processing and Information Retrieval Systems Requirements: System Testing" (RIN0584-AD99) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 23, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4478. A communication from the Chief of the Planning and Regulatory Affairs Branch, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Certification of Compliance With Meal Requirements for the National School Lunch Program Under the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010" (RIN0584-AE15) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 23, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4479. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Dinotefuran; Pesticide Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions" (FRL No. 9402-8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 16, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4480. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Acetochlor; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9904-19) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 23, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4481. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Indaziflam; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9903-88) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 23, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4482. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standards of Conduct and Referral of Known Suspected Criminal Violations; Standards of Conduct" (RIN3052-AC44) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 27, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4483. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the designation of funding for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-4484. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, a notification of a completion date of April 2014 for a report relative to the Department of Defense purchases from foreign entities for fiscal year 2013; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4485. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Barriers to Nontraditional Suppliers to the Department of Defense"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4486. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department of Defense (DoD) intending to assign women to previously closed positions in the Army; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4487. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Proposal Adequacy Checklist Revision" (RIN0750-AI15) (DFARS Case 2013-D033) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 23, 2014; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4488. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Limitation on Use of Cost-Reimbursement Line Items" (RIN0750-AI16) (DFARS Case 2013-D016) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 23, 2014; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4489. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Libya that was originally declared in Executive Order 13566 of February 25, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4490. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13348 of July 22, 2004, relative to the former Liberian regime of Charles Taylor; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4491. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report to Congress describing actions taken to support and preserve Minority Depository Institutions; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4492. A communication from the Director, Office of Financial Research, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Financial Research's annual report on activities of the office to date; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4493. A communication from the Director, Office of Financial Research, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Financial Research's 2013 Annual Report to Congress; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.